Filed 08/27/200

SJS 44 (Rev. 12/07) (cand rev 1-08)

### CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE TWO OF THE FORM.)

Ī.	I. (a) PLAINTIFF ALEJANDRO MOYA		DEFENDANT CHASE BANK USA,N .A.			
AT.	<ul> <li>(b) County of Residence of First Lis (EXCEPT IN U.S.</li> <li>(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address Irving L. Berg         THE BERG LAW GROU         145 Town Center, PMB 4</li> </ul>	PLAINTIFF CASES) s, and Telephone Number) JP 193, Corte Madera, CA 94925	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED. Attorneys (If Known) George G. Weickhardt (SBN 58586); Wendy C. Krog (SBN 25' ROPERS MAJESKI KOHN & BENTLEY 201 Spear Street, Suite 1000, San Francisco, CA 94105	7010)		
Z	Tel: (415) 924-0742; Fax  BASIS OF JURISDICTION	, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Tel: (415) 543-4800; Fax: (415) 972-6301  II. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X' in One Box for	District		
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	VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief	U.S.C. §1441(a); 15 U.S.C. §	ederal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.			
V		CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION OF F.R.C.P. 23	N DEMAND S CHECK YES only if demanded in co JURY DEMAND: Yes	mplaint: No		
V	/III. RELATED CASE(S) P		CONCERNING REQUIREMENT TO FILE			
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	August 27, 2008	wendy CA	g, Attorney for Defendant American Legally www.Forms.Work			



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GEORGE G. WEICKHARDT (SBN 58586) WENDY C. KROG (SBN 257010) ROPERS, MAJESKI, KOHN & BENTLEY

201 Spear Street, Suite 1000 San Francisco, CA 94105

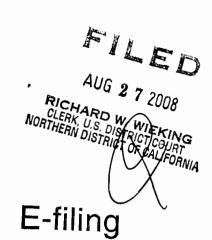
Telephone: Facsimile:

(415) 543-4800 (415) 972-6301

Email:

gweickhardt@rmkb.com wkrog@rmkb.com

Attorneys for Defendant CHASE BANK USA, N.A., erroneously sued herein as Chase Cardmember Service



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

ALEJANDRO MOYA, an individual,

Plaintiff,

CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE, a division of CHASE BANK USA, N.A.,

Defendants.

8Z 097

NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF CIVIL ACTION FROM STATE COURT TO UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF **CALIFORNIA** 

TO THE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, AND TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS **HEREIN:** 

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1441(a), defendant CHASE BANK USA, N.A., erroneously sued herein as Chase Cardmember Service, a national banking association, hereby removes the above-entitled action from the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of San Mateo to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, based on the following facts:

1. On or about August 1, 2008, plaintiff filed an action in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Mateo, entitled Alejandro Moya, plaintiff, v. Chase

RCI/5172007.1/WK1

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Cardmember Service, defendant, action number CLJ 475176 ("the Action").	A copy of the
original complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit A.	

- 2. The Action alleges violations of the California and Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act in relation to a debt owed on a credit card account issued by Chase to plaintiff.
- 3. Plaintiff alleges that he retained attorney Irving L. Berg to assist him with creditors and collectors. The complaint alleges that on March 8, 2008, Berg sent Chase a letter advising of his representation and that after receiving the representation letter, Chase sent a "collection letter" to plaintiff. Plaintiff alleges that the "collection letter" was sent in violation of the California and Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Acts.
- This Action is a case under which this Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §1331, and is one which may be removed to this Court by Chase pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. §1441(a), in that the claims in this action arise under the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seg.
- 5. Plaintiff alleges violation of the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practice Act in several paragraphs of his complaint, including the following:
  - Paragraph 1: "The Federal law is at 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. ("FDCPA")." a.
  - **b**. Paragraph 22: "Chase willfully and knowingly violated the ... FDCPA."
  - Prayer, Paragraph A: "Statutory damages against Chase ... pursuant to ... c. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k."
  - Prayer, Paragraph B: "Attorney's fees and litigation expenses as provided d. by ... 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)."
- 6. Chase was served with the summons and complaint on August 8, 2008. Therefore, this Notice of Removal is being filed within 30 days after service upon Chase of a copy of the initial pleading setting forth the claim for relief upon which such action or proceeding is based, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b). A copy of the summons is attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- 7. For the reasons stated above, defendant Chase Bank USA, N.A. hereby removes the above-entitled action.

RC1/5172007.1/WK1

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	1	Dated: August 27, 2008 Respectfully	submitted,
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e.	4	Bv: <b> \^///</b>	
	5	GEORGE WENDY	G WEICKHARDT C. KROG
	6	Attorneys CHASE I	s for Defendant BANK USA, N.A., erroneously in as Chase Cardmember Service
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		RC1/5172007.1/WK1 - 3 - NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF CIVIL ACTION FROM STATE COURT TO UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT SOLITHERN DISTRICT OF
		CALIFORNIA	

# SAN MATEO COUNTY

AUG 0 1 2008

Clerk of the Superior Court R. Mentgemery DEPUTY CLERK

#### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

#### COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

#### LIMITED JURISDICTION

Case No.:

CL1475176

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

JURY DEMAND

CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE, a division of CHASE BANK USA, N.A.,

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#### I. INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff brings this lawsuit to seek redress for Defendants' violation of the California and Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices law. The California law is at Cal. Civ. Code § 1788 et seq. ("CA FDCPA"). The Federal law is at 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. ("FDCPA").

- 2. Defendants are debt collectors under the provisions of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(c). which provides:
  - (c) The term "debt collector" means any person who, in the ordinary course of business, regularly, on behalf of himself or herself or others, engages in debt collection,
- 3. California law incorporates provisions of Federal law pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.17, which provides:

...that every debt collector collecting or attempting to collect a consumer debt shall comply with the provisions of sections 1692b to 1692j...of Title 15 of the United States Code.

Plaintiff seeks statutory damages, attorney's fccs, and court costs.

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ALEJANDRO MOYA V. CHASE

COMPLAINT

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#### II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. Jurisdiction in this court is conferred by 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d), and Cal. Code Civ. Proc. §§ 86 and 410.10.
- 6. Venue is proper in this court because Plaintiff resides in this county, Defendants do business in this county, and the collection communications were received in this county.

### III. PARTIES

- 7. Plaintiff, ALEJANDRO MOYA ("Plaintiff" or "Mr. Moya") is a resident of Daly City, California. He is a citizen of this state.
- 8. Defendant CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE, a division of CHASE BANK USA, N.A. ("Defendant" or "Chase") is a bank that, as part of its business, issues consumer credit cards, under the name of Chase Cardmember Service. Its principal office is located at Chase Bank USA, N.A., 200 White Clay Center Drive, Newark, DE 19711. It is amenable to service on a corporate officer at this address.
- 9. Defendant Chase, in the ordinary course of its business, regularly, on behalf of itself, engages in debt collection and is a "debt collector" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1788.2(c) and (g).

#### IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 10. Plaintiff was the holder of a credit card issued by the Defendant.
- The card issued to Plaintiff is identified by the following last 4 digits of the credit 11. card: 3150.
- 12. Plaintiff used the card to acquire, on credit, goods and services for Plaintiff's personal, family, and household needs.
- 13. Plaintiff defaulted in payment on the credit card account because of financial setbacks and increasing interest charges and late fees.
- 14. Plaintiff was worried over making payments on the Chase credit card and other credit card accounts.
  - 15. Plaintiff was frightened by aggressive and persistent collection callers.
  - 16. Plaintiff sought relief from her serious financial circumstances by enlisting the aid

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of an attorney.

- Plaintiff retained Irving L. Berg to represent her in dealing with her creditors and collectors.
- 18. Plaintiff was advised by her attorney that calls and correspondence from her creditors and collectors should be referred to her attorney and that the law required that, upon notice of attorney representation, creditors and collectors are required to leave her alone and to deal only with her legal representative.
- By a letter dated March 8, 2008 (<u>Exhibit A</u>), Defendant was notified that Plaintiff
   was represented by attorney Irving L. Berg.
  - 20. The letter stated, inter alia:

I am the attorney for the consumer noted above. You are advised to direct all communications to my office in connection with the collection of any debt allegedly owed by my client to your company or your client; related companies; or companies to whom the debt is assigned or sold.

A copy of the letter is attached as Exhibit A.

- 21. Notwithstanding the attorney's letter of representation, Defendant sent a collection letter directly to Plaintiff for the period ending April 12, 2008, referring Plaintiff to Defendant's collection department at 1-800-955-8030 ("Visa Signature Summary" section, at paragraph 2). A copy of the letter is attached as Exhibit B.
  - 22. Chase willfully and knowingly violated the CA FDCPA and the FDCPA.

#### V. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 23. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the foregoing paragraphs.
- 24. Defendants violate the following sections of the FDCPA, incorporated into California law by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.17;

Communicating with the consumer when the debt collector:

...knows the consumer is represented by an attorney with respect to such debt and has knowledge of, or can readily ascertain, such attorney's name and address...

(Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 16592(c)(a)(2).)

### VII. SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

25. Defendants violate the following section of the California FDCPA:

> 1788.14. No debt collector shall collect or attempt to collect a consumer debt by means of the following practices:

(c) Initiating communications, other than statements of account, with the debtor with regard to the consumer debt, when the debt collector has been previously notified in writing by the debtor's attorney that the debtor is represented by such attorney with respect to the consumer debt and such notice includes the attorney's name and address and a request by such attorney that all communications regarding the consumer debt be addressed to such attorney...

#### VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

Statutory damages against Chase of \$2,000, pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code §§ A.

1788.17 and 1788.30, and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k:

Plaintiff demands trial by jury.

B. Attorney's fees and litigation expenses as provided by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.32

and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a).

7.2500

Irving L. Berg THE BERG LAW GROUP 145 Town Center, PMB 493 Corte Madera, California 94925 (415) 924-0742 (415) 891-8208 (Fax)

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

**JURY DEMAND** 

Irving L. Berg

Dated:

THE BERG LAW GROUP ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW 145 Town Center, PMB 493 Corte Madera, California 94925 Phone: (415) 924-0742 Fax; (415) 891-8208 e-mail irvberg@comcast.net

IRVING L. BERG, ESQ.

March 8, 2008

Chase Card Services P. O. Box 15298 Wilmington, DE 19850-5298

Re:

Aleiandro L. Mova

Notice of Attorney Representation and

**Notice of Dispute** 

Account No.: xxxx3150 Alleged Creditor: Chase Cardmember Service

#### Dear Sir or Madam:

I am the attorney for the consumer noted above. You are advised to direct all communications to my office in connection with the collection of any debt allegedly owed by my client to your company or your client; related companies; or companies to whom the debt is assigned or sold.

Please address all inquiries to my attention in writing. The captioned debt is disputed. Please forward verification of the debt. In the unlikely event that the legal relationship with my client is terminated, you will be notified in writing.

Your collection practices are governed by Federal and California consumer laws. If you have any doubt as to these matters, deliver this letter to your attorney or insurance carrier. The law prohibits you from contacting my client, my client's employer, or my client's family regarding the alleged debts.

Further, please note that, should a legal action be brought against you in connection with your collection practices, the legal action could result in a judgment that would include actual costs of filing the complaint, actual costs of service of process, and reasonable altomey's fees.

Your co-operation is appreciated

Sincerely,

Irving L. Berg ILB/rl

# **EXHIBIT B**

New Balance \$7,521.76

vnt Due Date 05/07/08

Past Due Amount Minimum Paymer' \$677.00 \$874.1

Amount Enclosed \$

Make your check payable to Chase Card Services. New address of a mail? Print on back.

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91524 BEX Z 10908 D ALEJANDRO MOYA 315 MORTON DR DALY CITY CA 94015-4447

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CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 94014 PALATINE IL 60094-4014

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### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE, a division of CHASE BANK USA, N.A.

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): ALEJANDRO MOYA, an individual

FOR COURT USE ONLY (SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE

### ENDORSED FILED SAN MATEO COUNTY

AUG 0 1 2008

Clerk care Superior Court
by B. Mentenmery
PERVITY CLERK

CASE 1 1 4 7 5 1 7 6

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filling fee, ask the court clerk for a fee walver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an ettorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

Tiena 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entrégue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada felefórica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfnelp/espanol/), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llama a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un

servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpta con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/seifhelp/espanol/) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de aboyados locales.

The name and	address	of the	count is:

(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo

Southern Branch - Limited Civil

400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

DATE: (Fecha)	wn Center, PMB 493, Co	JOHN C. FITTON	Clerk, by	R. MONTGOMERY	Deputy (Adjunto)
(For proo	f of service of this summons,	use Proof of Service of Sur		010).)	
(Para pru	leba de entrega de esta citatió	n use el formulario Proof o	f Service of Summo	ns. (POS-010)).	
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Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of Celifornia SUM-100 [Rev. January 1, 2004]

SUMMONS

Code of Civil Procedure §§ 412.20, 465 American LegalNet Inc. | www.LISCourtForms.com